

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Status report

1,399 visibly oiled birds have been collected alive by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the states and our partners in response to the Deepwater Horizon/BP oil spill. Of those, 551 birds have been rehabilitated and released.

602 Service personnel are actively engaged in the response, working to protect wildlife and their habitats, including 36 national wildlife refuges. They are also assessing the damage from the oil spill in preparation for the work that will be needed to restore the Gulf of Mexico.

The Service and its partners continue to relocate sea turtle eggs away from the oil's path. In Alabama, 104 sea turtle eggs were excavated at the Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge, and in Florida, 151 loggerhead sea turtles were excavated at St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge.

Severe weather hampered wildlife search teams near Grand Isle, LA. Close monitoring of the area has begun in anticipation of a tropical wave predicted to move into the Gulf.

Also in Louisiana, Service boats are surveying newly assigned areas of Trinity Isle. Routes were established to survey the inland salt marshes of Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes for oiled wildlife. Aerial surveys observed heavy oil near Southwest Pass, tar balls along the shore at South Pass and visible oil on the beach and in the vegetation at Southeast Pass.

By the Numbers

Personnel Involved

Overall personnel responding: approximately 41,600

Response Vessels

Total response vessels: more than 5,300

Boom Data

Total boom deployed: approximately 2,104 miles

Boom available: approximately 734 miles

Oil recovered

Oily water recovered: more than 34.7 million gallons

Amount estimated burned: more than 11.14 million gallons

Dispersant

Surface dispersant used: 1.07 million gallons

Subsea dispersant used: 771,000 gallons

Total dispersant used: approximately 1.84 million gallons

Shoreline Impacted

Shoreline impacted over last 24 hours: approximately 626 miles of Gulf Coast shoreline is currently oiled—approximately 363 miles in Louisiana, 108 miles in Mississippi, 70 miles in Alabama, and 85 miles in Florida.